

1896 the Jews of Persia

Mr. Tyler to Mr. Olney. Legation of the United State

Teheran, Persia, October 7, 1896.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith enclosed correspondence relating to the disturbed state of the town of Hamadan. The presence of a large Jewish population, probably upward of 3,000, in this city appears to be a perpetual source of alarm, anxiety, and trouble. The causes for this state of disquiet, and occasionally outbursts of fanatical rage and open revolt against the administrative authorities, are many, but all owing their origin to the weakness and incapacity of the local government and the want of decisive measures at Teheran.

The Jews have been settled in Hamadan from a time coeval with the captivities, and have today, many of them, a position and standing which excites the envy of their Moslem neighbors.

They have, too, notwithstanding their persecutions, the same methods of doing business as elsewhere, and thereby not unfrequently bring upon themselves the wrath of their victims. If they would behave with a little more prudence in business matters they would escape many indignities and much suffering.

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